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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, November 5, 2007, at 12.30 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2007

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable SHERROD BROWN, a Senator from the State of Ohio.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Give our Senators this day, O God, reverence to realize Your presence, humility to know their own needs, trust to ask for Your help, and obedience to accept Your plan. Walk with them as they labor. Help them to remember that there is no purity without vigilance, no learning without study, and no mastery without discipline. Remind them also that there is no joy without service, no discipleship without devotion, and no crown without a cross.

Help our lawmakers to be willing, Lord, to pay the price required to honor You. May they know that true wisdom is to fear You and true understanding is to shun evil. Strengthen their resolve to always choose the right and to refuse the wrong.

We pray in Your holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable SHERROD BROWN led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 2, 2007.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable SHERROD BROWN, a Senator from the State of Ohio, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BROWN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the Senate will be in a period of morning business today, with Members allowed to speak therein for whatever time they feel is appropriate.

There will be no rollcall votes today or tomorrow as a result of our being able to work something out on a very contentious Children's Health Initiative Program.

Next week, it is expected the Senate will receive the veto message on the water resources conference report. This measure passed with overwhelming votes in both the House and Senate. If it continues to have broad, bipartisan support, the veto will be overridden.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2293 AND S. 2294

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it is my understanding there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bills by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2293) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the individual alternative minimum tax, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 2294) to strengthen immigration enforcement and border security, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to any further proceedings with respect to these bills.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard. The measures will be placed on the calendar.

MUST DO LEGISLATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I had a long meeting last night with the Speaker of the House and Senate Members, which lasted several hours. It is very clear that next week is going to be a very difficult week. The following week is going to be very difficult—important but difficult.

The reason I mention this is we had the obligation, procedurally, to vote this morning at 1 a.m., but we were able to work that out as a result of a unanimous consent request, which was very helpful. It avoided the necessity of our working this weekend. We only have one weekend left until Thanksgiving. I hope we can work everything out.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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